

Serial No. 10/536488

-2-

Docket No. 4439-4033

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) A method for producing a  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition wherein a mannan degrading enzyme is functioned to a mannan-containing natural material to produce at least 10% by weight of  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose based on the mannan before the degradation.
2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A method for producing a  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition wherein a mannan degrading enzyme is functioned to mannan extracted from a mannan-containing natural material to produce at least 10% by weight of  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose based on the mannan before the degradation.
3. (original) The method for producing a  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition according to claim 1 or 2 wherein a mannan degrading enzyme is functioned to 100 parts by weight of mannan with supplementing 50-10000 parts by weight of water.
4. (currently amended) The method for producing a  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition according to any one of claims ~~1 to 3~~ 1 to 2 wherein the temperature at which the mannan degrading enzyme is functioned ranges from 40° to 55°C.

955677 v1

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Serial No. 10/536488

-3-

Docket No. 4439-4033

5. (currently amended) The method for producing a  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition according to any one of claims ~~1 to 4~~ 1 to 2 wherein 20-80% by weight of  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose based on the mannan before the degradation is produced.

6. (currently amended) The method for producing a  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition according to any one of claims ~~1 to 5~~ 1 to 2 wherein the mannan-containing natural material is palm kernel meal and/or copra meal.

7. (currently amended) A feed additive containing the  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition prepared by the method for producing according to any one of claims ~~1 to 6~~ 1 to 2.

8. (currently amended) A feed blended with the  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition prepared by the method for producing according to any one of claims ~~1 to 7~~ 1 to 2, which can inhibit colonization of salmonella in intestine of livestock or poultry.

9. (original) The feed according to claim 8, in which 0.001-1% by weight of  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose is contained.

10. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition prepared through the function of a mannan degrading enzyme to a mannan-containing natural material, which contains at least 3% by weight of  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose in terms of dry matter.

955677 v1

Serial No. 10/536488

-4-

Docket No. 4439-4033

11. (currently amended) The A  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition prepared through the function of a mannan degrading enzyme to mannan extracted from a mannan-containing natural material, which contains at least 10% by weight of  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose in terms of dry matter.
12. (original) The  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition according to claim 10 or 11 wherein the mannan-containing natural material is palm kernel meal and/or copra meal.
13. (currently amended) A feed additive which contains the  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition according to any one of claims ~~10 to 12~~ 10 to 11.
14. (currently amended) A feed blended with the  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose-containing composition according to any one of claims ~~10 to 12~~ 10 to 11, which can inhibit colonization of salmonella in intestine of livestock or poultry.
15. (original) The feed according to claim 14 which contains 0.001-1% by weight of  $\beta$ -1,4-mannobiose.

955677 v1

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